Thousand Oaks Fuel Bed

Fuel Bed Description
Highway 118, borders the Thousand Oaks Fuel Bed on the north, on the south by Potrero Road, on the east by Highway 23 and on the west by the Oxnard Plains.

The ground cover and vegetation consists of heavy brush on the north facing slopes just south of the City of Thousand Oaks. Lighter, flashy fuels and medium brush can be found in the remainder of the fuel bed. The main ridges primarily run from east to west.

Predominant Risk Exposure
Thousand Oaks is a growing urban area that has interface issues along its perimeter. This is illustrated by the setting found in the Wildwood Park area where steep topography with hazardous fuels is found below many residences. Because of the significant development in the area many of the fuels that used to exist in the area have been mitigated due to the expanding urban area. As the Dos Vientos project continues to grow to the north of Potrero Road, ongoing evaluation of risk exposure will need to occur.

Historical Fire Data

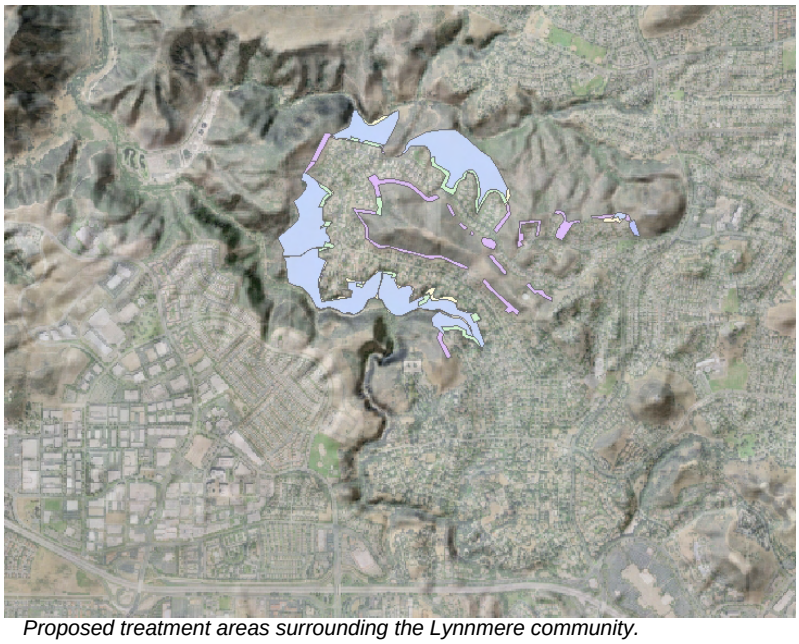
Number of 300+ Acre Fires	Average Size	Time of Occurrence	Fire Spread Characteristics
11	2,681 acres	June - December	10 of 11 large fires were wind driven. 1 of 11 were fuels and topography driven

Fuel Break Location And Method

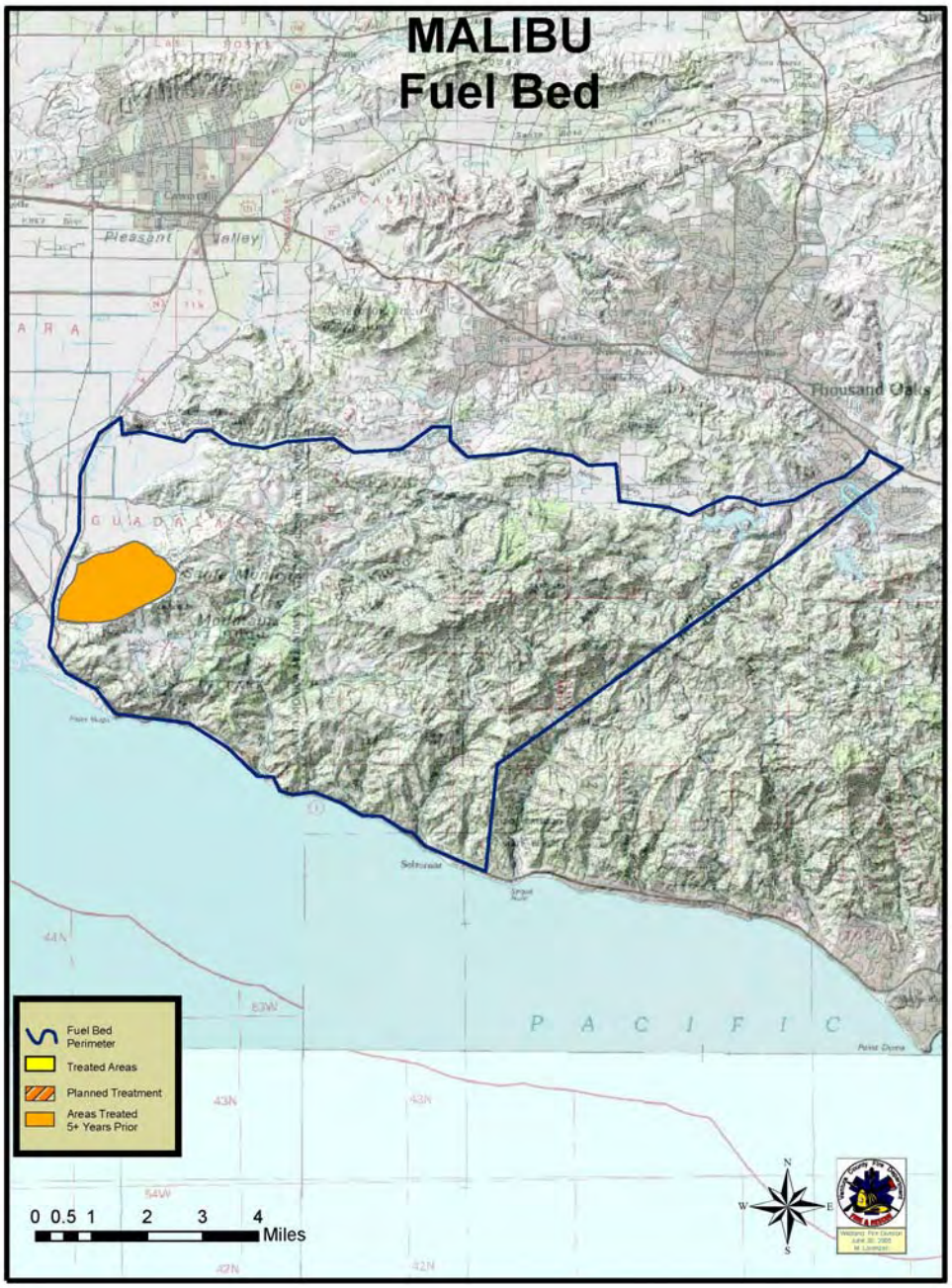
Wildwood Project

The area selected for fuels treatment is in the area of Wildwood Park. This area is north of Newbury Park, south of Santa Rosa Valley, east of Hill Canyon and west of the City of Thousand Oaks. This is a continuation of a prior project that was funded through a FEMA grant. The treatment of this area will afford protection from wildfire to the residences that are in the interface area. Due to the proximity of the homes to the treatment area, fuels will need to be cut, stacked and pile burned. A newly purchased forestry mower will also be used to modify the fuels by mechanical means. This project is rated as a high priority because of its interface protection value.

FEMA has approved additional funding for this project through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The project will be implemented after a plan is developed and an agreement reached with the local open space agency that maintains the lands.



Proposed treatment areas surrounding the Lynnmere community.


MALIBU
Fuel Bed
Pleasant Valley
Thousand Oaks
Fuel Bed Perimeter
Treated Areas
Planned Treatment
Areas Treated 5+ Years Prior
0 0.5 1 2 3 4
Miles
N
W
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Malibu Fuel Bed

Fuel Bed Description
Potrero Road borders the Malibu fuel bed on the north, on the south by Highway 1, on the east by the Los Angeles County line and on the west by Lewis Road. The highest elevation on the fuel bed is Sandstone Peak at 3,111 feet.

The ground cover vegetation consists of light to medium brush, with light flashy fuels on the north end of the fuel bed, turning to medium to heavier brush, as you get closer to the coast and north slopes.

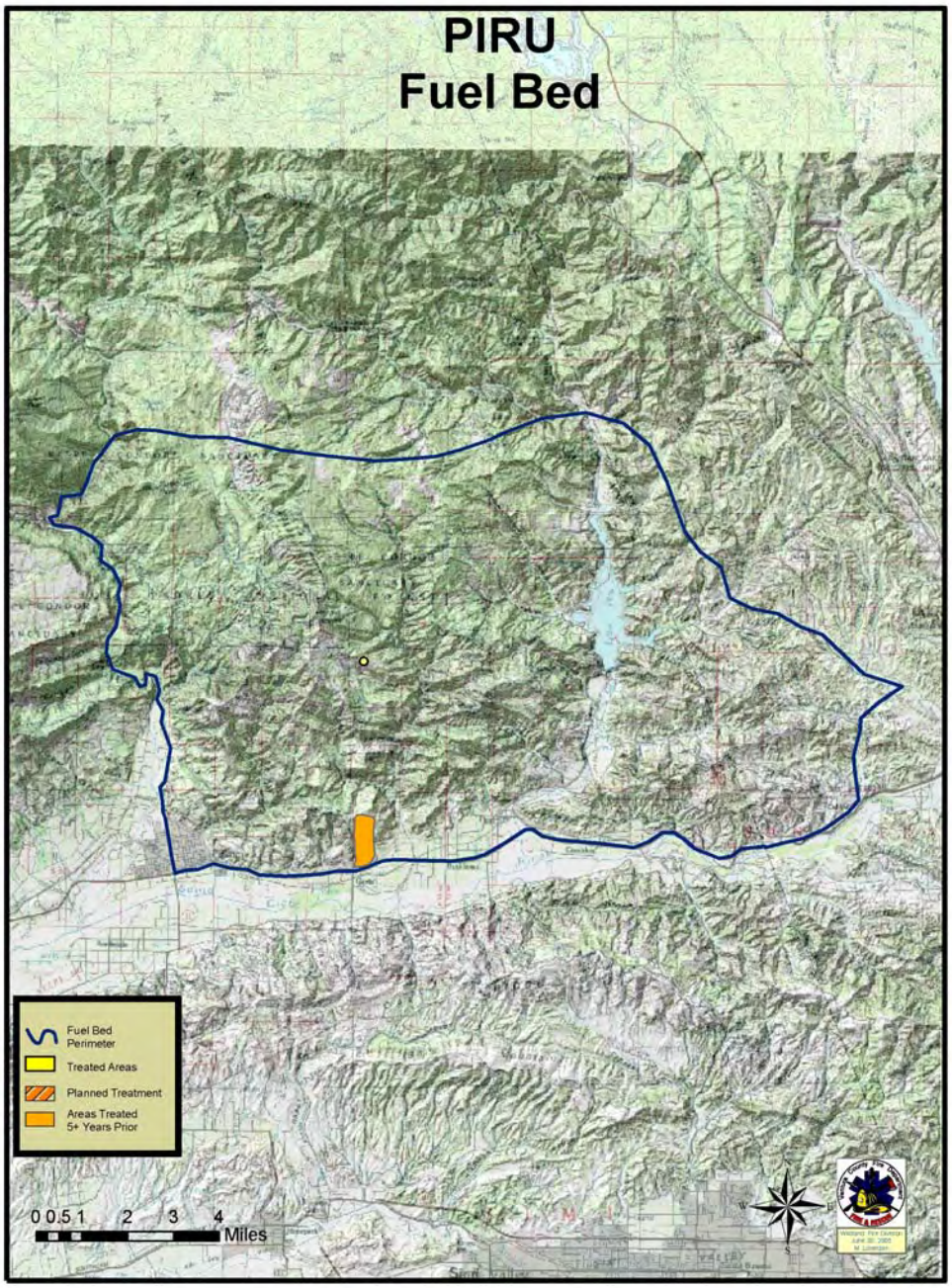
Predominant Risk Exposure
Structures located in narrow canyons with limited access present the greatest risk to both local assets and firefighting resources. The fact that the majority of the structures at risk are scattered throughout the fuel bed makes large-scale prescribed fire projects ineffective for protective purposes. Some ranch and agricultural assets exist in Hidden Valley and on the western portion of the fuel bed in the Broome Ranch area.

Historical Fire Data

Number of 300+ Acre Fires	Average Size	Time of Occurrence	Fire Spread Characteristics
25	6200 acres	July – December	22 of 25 large fires were wind driven. 3 of 25 were fuels and topography driven

Fuel Break Location And Method

<u>Broome Ranch Project</u>
The area selected for fuels reduction is located in the area of Broome Ranch, north of Highway 1, south of Potrero Road, east of Calleguas Creek and west of La Jolla Canyon. The selected area will protect sensitive military communications equipment from wildfire in a northeast wind condition and will also support range improvement. Prescribed fire will be the method used to treat this area. Because this project has the potential to protect valuable assets in has a medium priority rating. Completion date is projected to be 2007/08.


PIRU
Fuel Bed
Fuel Bed Perimeter
Treated Areas
Planned Treatment
Areas Treated 5+ Years Prior
0 0.5 1 2 3 4
Miles

Piru Fuel Bed

Fuel Bed Description
The Piru Fuel bed is bordered on the north by Agua Blanca Creek, on the south by the Santa Clara River, on the east by Del Valle and on the west by the Hopper Canyon west slope.

The ground cover and vegetation consists of light to medium brush in the areas of concern. The fuel bed has large areas of southern aspect slopes. The Santa Clara Valley alignment runs west to east and provides for erratic fire spread with a west wind condition.

Predominant Risk Exposure
Ranches, residences and orchards between Fillmore, Piru and the Los Angeles County Line present the greatest risk exposure.

Oil production facilities are located in the area to the northwest of the line connecting Oat and Hopper Mountains and in the Holser Canyon area. The arrangement of these facilities and the brush clearances around them normally will reduce the risk posed in a wildfire.

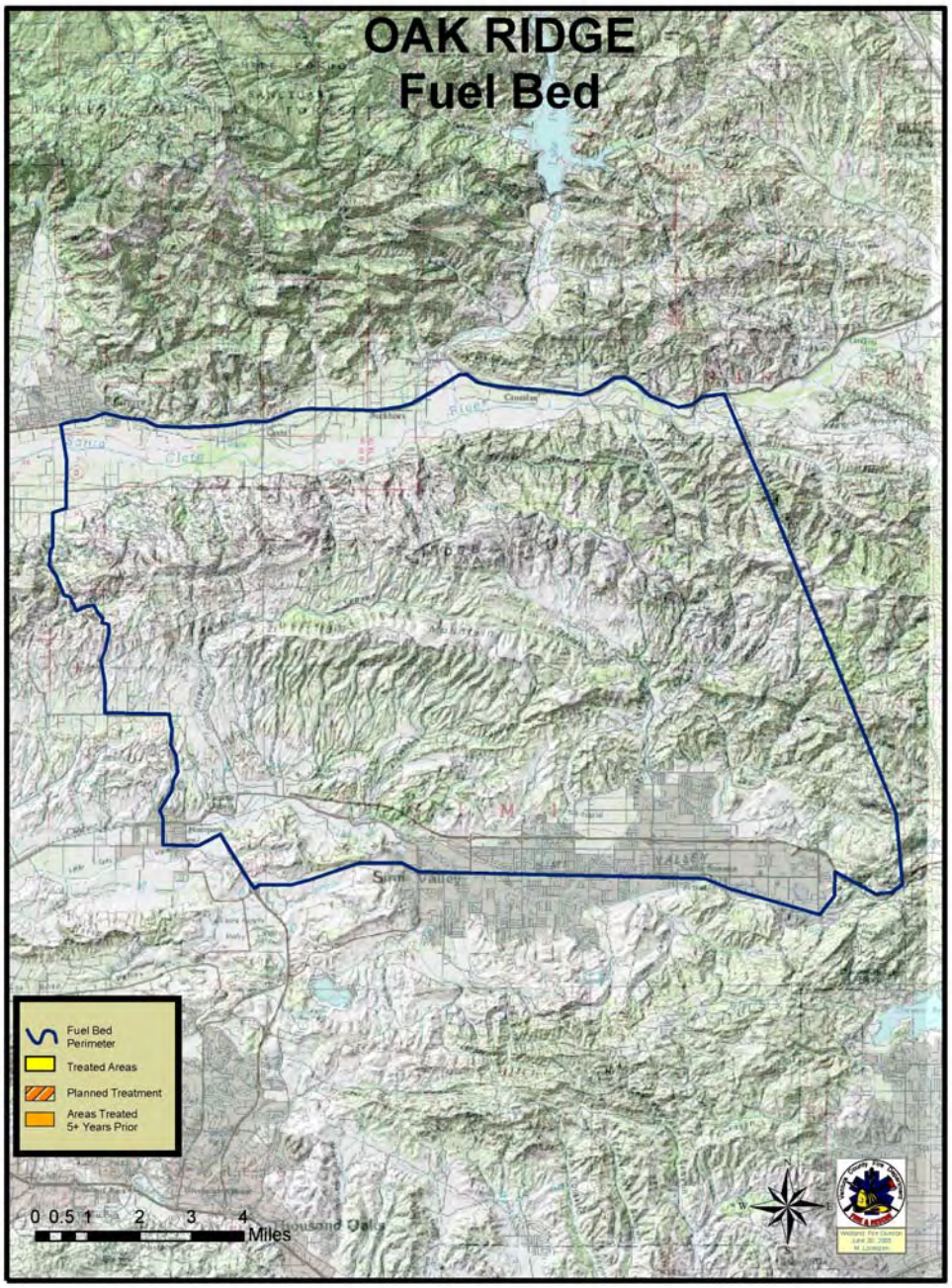
Historical Fire Data

Number of 300+ Acre Fires	Average Size	Time of Occurrence	Fire Spread Characteristics
13	9,427 acres	July - December	7 of 13 large fires were wind driven. 6 of 13 were fuels and topography driven

Fuel Break Location And Method

The Hopper and Piru fires that occurred in the late 1990's and the Piru Fire of 2003 modified the fuels in many areas of this fuel bed. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has contracted with the Ventura County Fire Department to mitigate hazardous fuels in and around the structures and condor holding pens on the Hopper National Wildlife Refuge.

Crews clear around condor holding pens.


OAK RIDGE
Fuel Bed
Fuel Bed Perimeter
Treated Areas
Planned Treatment
Areas Treated 5+ Years Prior
0 0.5 1 2 3 4
Miles

Oak Ridge Fuel Bed

Fuel Bed Description
The Oak Ridge fuel bed is bordered on the north by the Santa Clara River, on the south by the Simi fuel bed, on the east by the Los Angeles/Ventura County line and on the west by Highway 23.

The highest elevation of the fuel bed is 2,992 feet. The ground cover of the bed consists of medium brush on the North Slope and light, flashy fuels on the south slope.

Predominant Risk Exposure
The interface area along the northern boundary of the City of Simi Valley increases in size as rapid development occurs. As this residential area grows, so does the risk from wildfire.

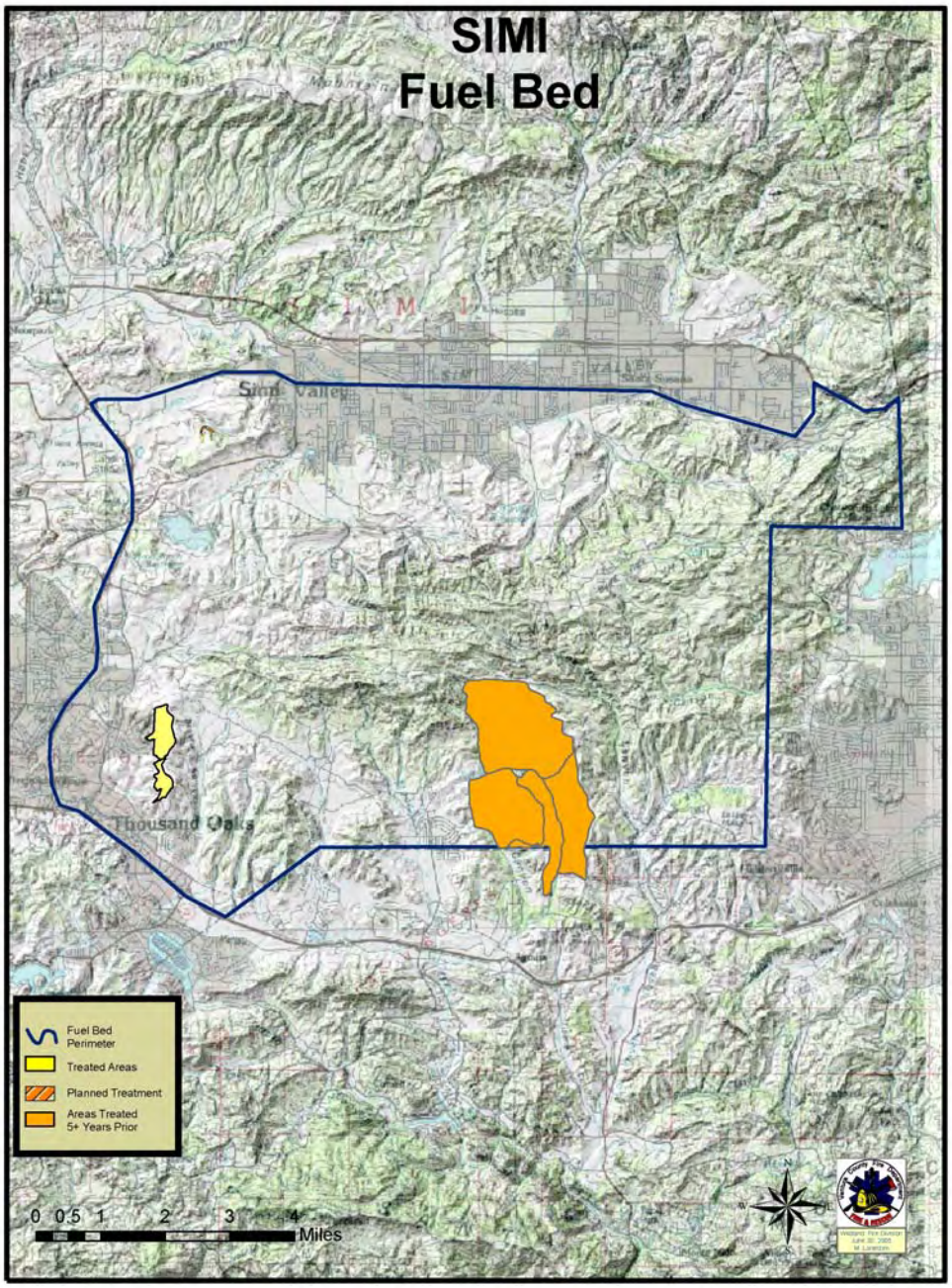
Oil production facilities are located in the area of the Big Mountain Oil Field, Shiells Canyon, Calumet Canyon, Torrey Canyon and the north end of Grimes Canyon. The arrangement of these facilities and the brush clearances around them normally will reduce the risk posed in a wildfire.

Historical Fire Data

Number of 300+ Acre Fires	Average Size	Time of Occurrence	Fire Spread Characteristics
20	11,413 acres	June - November	15 of 20 large fires were wind driven. 5 of 20 were fuels and topography driven

Fuel Break Location And Method

This entire fuel bed was consumed by the October 2003, Simi Fire. No projects are currently planned for the Oak Ridge Fuel Bed. As development occurs and the interface increases, the fuel bed will be reevaluated to determine if any fuel management projects would be of value.


SIMI
Fuel Bed
Simi Valley
Thousand Oaks
Fuel Bed Perimeter
Treated Areas
Planned Treatment
Areas Treated 5+ Years Prior
0 0.5 1 2 3 4
Miles

Simi Fuel Bed

Fuel Bed Description
The Simi Fuel Bed is bordered on the north by Simi Valley, on the south by Highway 101, on the east by the San Fernando Valley and on the west by Highway 23 and Olsen Road.

The highest elevation of the fuel bed is Simi Peak at 2400 feet. The ground cover of the bed consists of medium brush in the steep canyons and light flashy fuels make up much of the fuel bed on the north and the south slopes.

Predominant Risk Exposure
The east end of Thousand Oaks, the community of North Ranch and the City of Oak Park have many assets that are exposed to hazardous fuels along the interface area. The south side of the City of Simi Valley, while exposed to the fuels along the north side of this fuel bed, does not have as great a risk due to the historical patterns of east wind driven fires.

Historical Fire Data

Number of 300+ Acre Fires	Average Size	Time of Occurrence	Fire Spread Characteristics
16	12089 acres	July - November	13 of 16 large fires were wind driven. 3 of 16 were fuels and topography driven

Fuel Break Location And Method

<u>Kevington Project</u>
The project is located in the Skeleton Canyon area. This is a prior project that was funded through FEMA and will be treated for regrowth. The project will be accomplished through hand cutting, stack and pile burning. Once sufficient regrowth occurs, this project will have a high priority due to its proximity to the interface area. The project is planned for 2006/07.

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

This project increases the defensible space around this valuable community asset. Increasing defensible space will allow civilians and library employees to shelter in place should a wind driven fire run through the fuels surrounding the property. Additionally, fewer resources will need to be committed to structure protection thus allowing allocation to areas of greater need. This project will be accomplished through hand cutting and chipping or mechanically using the Department's forestry mower. The first phase of the project was completed in 2003/04 and the next phase is scheduled to begin in September 2005.

Before

Four hours later after mechanical treatment

Seeking alternatives to burning, the Ventura County Fire Department purchased a Forestry Mower .